Government servant retires are responsible for ensuring such payments without delay. Some of the important steps taken by the Government to ensure timely disposal of pension cases of retiring persons are as under:—

(i) A specific time schedule has been laid down in the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 and the corresponding rules applicable to All India Services Officers, Armed Forces personnel and Railway employees for advance action to be taken by the Head of Office and Audit/Accounts Officers to ensure timely assessment of retirement benefits and issue of Pension Payment Order not later than one month in advance of the date of retirement.

(ii) Making Heads of Departments/ Offices accountable for compliance with the Government orders for authorising pension, provisional or final, by the date of retirement.

(iii) Identification of officers of the rank of Joint Secretary in the Ministries to monitor disposal of pensionary grievances.

(iv) The retiring employees who do not receive pensionary benefits on the date of retirement may bring such cases to the notice of the Government.

2. Instructions for timely payment of pensionary benefits were reiterated by the Government in May 1994 emphasising the need for timely verification of qualifying service, appropriate training of employees handling pension cases, publicity regarding provision of CCS (Pension) Rules and periodical coordination meetings between administrative Heads and Accounts Offices. The Heads of Departments/Offices are required to ensure timely payment. The respective Departments can take action against the delinquent officials if they are found responsible for delay in payments.

Conversion of Miraj-Latur Narrow Gauge Rail Line into Broad Gauge

413. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of conversion of the Miraj-Latur narrow gauge into broad gauge;

(b) the amount sanctioned in the budget for 1995-96 for the project;

(c) whether the Planning Commission has cleared the whole project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI): (a) The present estimated cost of the work is Rs. 225 crores.

(b) Rs. 10 crores.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Land acquisition work for new line from Latur to Latur Road, as part of gauge conversion of Miraj-Latur section, is in progress. Construction of station building for New Latur Station has also been taken up. Work in earthwork and bridges is also being taken up where land is available.

(e) Does not arise.

Revival plan for Reyrolle Burn Ltd.

414. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI JIBON ROY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the operating Agency had submitted a revival plan for Reyrolle Burn Ltd. a subsidiary of BBUNL, in BIFR hearing in March, 1995;

(b) whether BIFR Bench had in the hearing in July, 1995 advised Government to take a quick decision on the revival when Government had asked for two months' time;

(c) whether in spite of the above, Government in September, 1995 again asked for another two months' time to finalise its views; and

(d) the total investment envisaged in revival plan in March, 1995 and the reason for Government's delay in taking decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (DR. C. SILVERA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Since the revival scheme of RBL was under consideration of the Government, extension of time was sought. The total investment envisaged in revival plan of RBL prepared by OA was Rs. 400.41 lakh. Additional time was required by the Government as the revival report had to be thoroughly examined and comments of other concerned Ministries had to be obtained.

केन्द्रीय सरकार के सेवा निवृत्त कर्मचारियों को चिकित्सीय सुविधाएं

415. **श्री गोविन्दराम मिरी:** क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार केन्द्रीय सरकार के सेवानिवृत्त कर्मचारियों को कोई चिकित्सीय सुविधाएं और भत्ते उपलब्ध करा रही है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री ए० आर० अन्तुले): (क) और (ख), सेवानिवृत्त केन्द्रीय सरकार के कर्मचारियों को कोई चिकित्सा भत्ता नहीं दिया जा रहा है। बहरहाल, सेवा निवृत्त केन्द्रीय सरकार के उन कर्मचारियों को चिकित्सा सुविधाएं उपलब्ध की जा रही हैं जो केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के अंतर्गत कवर क्षेत्रों में रहते हैं। तथापि केन्द्रीय सरकार के वे पेंशनर जो केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के अंतर्गत कवर क्षेत्रों में नहीं रहते, वे निर्धारित अंशदान को अदायगी पर शहर के निकटतम केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना औषधालय से केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना कार्ड प्राप्त कर सकते हैं।

सेवानिवृत्त केन्द्रीय सरकार के वे कर्मचारी जो गैर-केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना क्षेत्रों में रहते हैं उन्हें चिकित्सा सुविधाएं/चिकित्सा भत्ता देने संबंधी प्रश्न पांचवें वेतन आयोग के विचाराधीन है। उनकी सिफारिशों की प्रतीक्षा है।

Nuclear technology

416. SHRI T. VENKATRAM REDDY:
SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item appearing in the "Pioneer" of the 10th October, 1995 to the effect that Vice-Admiral K. K. Nayyar has called upon the Union Government to take into account all aspects of nuclear technology which have a bearing on the people directly and also globally because of the perceptions of the other countries; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND DEPTT. OF DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT) (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) India has an extensive nuclear programme which is geared towards peaceful purposes. However, the security situation of India remains under review in the light of developments in the region and Government takes all measures necessary to cope with any threat that may be posed to the security of the nation.

Disparity in pension of officers

417. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a wide disparity between the pension rates